

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ALEXANDER VAN DER LELY ET AL

APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: AN ARRANGEMENT FOR AND A METHOD OF MANAGING A HERD OF
ANIMALS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

To the Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed for the above-identified Application filed under 35 U.S.C. §111(a). Priority of February 2, 2001 is claimed based on Netherlands Patent Application No. 1017353, filed February 13, 2001 and Netherlands Patent Application No. 1018046, filed May 11, 2001.

Prior to calculating the filing fee for this Application, please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel without prejudice all claims except Claims 1, 2, 43 and 44.

REMARKS

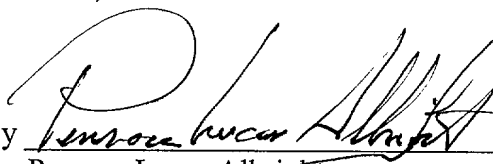
The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple-dependent claims from subject Application to establish a filing fee. It is to be understood, nevertheless, that the claims originally set forth for subject Application prior to this Preliminary Amendment remain part of the original disclosure of the Application.

As amended by this Preliminary Amendment, there are a total of four (4) claims, two (2) of which are independent claims. Accordingly, a filing fee of \$370.00 appears to be required and our check to cover same is submitted herewith. If this is in error, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is authorized to debit or credit our Account No. 13-2000 as appropriate.

It is contemplated that a Supplemental Preliminary Amendment will be filed with the objective of placing the Specification, claims and Abstract in formats which are more customary for U.S. patent applications. Such Supplemental Preliminary Amendment should be filed in the near future upon receipt of information from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office concerning the instant Application, including the serial number assigned thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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